

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8198

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, IAEA, AORG

SUBJECT: SOVIET ATTITUDE ON SOUTH AFRICAN ISSUES IN IAEA

REF: PARIS 24785

1. DURING COURTESY CALL BY EMBOFF AUGUST 31 ON MFA INTER-NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIVISION COUNSELOR BYELOV, ISSUE OF SOUTH AFRICA IN IAEA WAS DISCUSSED. BYELOV STATED THAT THE USSR WOULD NOT MAKE AN ISSUE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN DESIGNATION TO THE IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS NOR THEIR MEMBERSHIP IN THE

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IEAEA. HE WAS AWARE, HE SAID, THAT SOME ARAB AND AFRICAN

STATES WISHED TO MOVE AGAINST THE SOUTH AFRICANS, AND HE WAS UNEQUIVOCAL IN STATING THAT THE SOVIET UNION "WILL SUPPORT THEM IN WHATEVER THEY DECIDE". HE PROFESSED NOT TO KNOW WHAT STEPS OTHERS MAY BE PLANNING, BUT HE NOTED THAT CREDENTIAL CHALLENGES HAD BEEN USED WITH SUCCESS IN THE PAST IN OTHER FORUMS.

2. BYELOV WAS OF THE OPINION THAT THE ACTION AT THE IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING PRECEDING THE IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE WILL HAVE AN IMPORTANT INFLUENCE ON THE CONFERENCE'S DECISION WITH RESPECT TO SOUTH AFRICA. HE CITED THE TROUBLED SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE PASSIONS GENERATED BY EVENTS THERE AS ELEMENTS WHICH WOULD PUSH THE ISSUE TO THE FOREFRONT IN RIO. THE RECENT REACTOR SALE BY FRANCE TO SOUTH AFRICA HAS ALSO ATTRACTED THE INTEREST OF THE AFRICANS, HE FELT. ON THE LATTER, HE SAID THE USSR WOULD RAISE NO OBJECTIONS TO THE SAIE IF IT IS CERTAIN THAT THE IAEA SAFEGUARDS ARE OBSERVED.

3. BYELOV AND HIS BOSS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE IO DIVISION, ROLAND TIMERBAYEV, WILL LEAVE MOSCOW FOR THE RIO DE JANEIRO MEETINGS EARLY NEXT WEEK.
STOESSEL

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